

# DISCOVERY



The Development of Combat Power and Efficiency

Vol. 26, No. 19 - Friday, Oct. 4, 2002 - Brooks AFB, Texas

Through the Many Facets of Aerospace Medicine

## West Nile virus less of a risk as mosquito season winds down

By Rita Boland

Staff writer

As summer comes to an end and mosquito season winds down so does the threat of West Nile virus, though not before taking its toll on the U.S. Deaths due to West Nile numbered 94 this year, and the Centers for Disease Control reported 1,963 human cases in 32 states and the District of Columbia.

"I suspect some cases will continue to trickle in for a while," said Dr. Chad McHugh, the Air Force expert on medical entomology at the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis at Brooks. "Infections acquired before the mosquito season ends may take a while to develop into clinical cases," he said.

The virus infects horses and birds. Mosquitoes that bite the animals transfer the disease to humans.

According to the CDC, Illinois suffered the greatest number of fatalities with 29. Texas reported 91 cases and two deaths. Cases were reported across the North American continent.

According to an article from the Center for the Study of Emerging Infectious Diseases, health officials suspect tens of thousands of cases go unreported due to lack of symptoms. Only one in 150 develop encephalitis or meningitis, potentially fatal diseases, after being infected with West Nile, and they are generally older or have weakened immune systems. Recent studies have shown that West Nile virus can also cause paralysis in humans.

In Sept. 2002, health officials at the CDC confirmed with a "high level of certainty" that West Nile could be transmitted by organ transplants and potentially by blood transfusion.

## INSIDE



Local celebrity kicks off CFC at Brooks

Page 4



Tribute to POW/MIA Retirees

Page 17



Photo by Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

### A survivor's story

KSAT-12 television Anchorwoman Leslie Mouton receives a commemorative plaque and a commander's coin from Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd, 311th Human Systems Wing commander.

Mouton was the featured guest speaker at the 2002 Combined Federal Campaign kick-off breakfast at the Brooks Club Oct. 2. See stories, page 4.

## Trilateral Technology Summit features Brooks City-Base initiatives

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Brooks City-Base representatives used the first Trilateral Technology Summit held in San Antonio to promote partnerships with leaders from Canada, Mexico and the U.S. that could lead to future homeland security initiatives supporting America's war on terrorism.

The summit, Sept. 23-25, was hosted by the city of San Antonio and the North and South Chambers of Commerce. Brooks City-Base was among many sponsors of the annual event, which began last year in Calgary, Canada. The summit's founding directors include U.S. Rep. Ciro Rodriguez, U.S. Consul General Roy Chavera Jr. and former South San Antonio Chamber of Commerce chairman Bob Sanchez.

Rodriguez said, "The tragic events of Sept. 11 traumatized all of us. The fear caused by terrorism and

the increased security now required inhibit open trade and cultural exchange. The Trilateral Technology Summit provides an opportunity to fill existing gaps and chart a path to future partnerships and collaborations in international public policy, education and commerce through broadening trilateral technology business opportunities." San Antonio Mayor Ed Garza, added, "The goals for this year's summit are to encourage technology growth, to identify north-south trade corridor opportunities, and to examine international technology regulations and security infrastructure."

The summit featured six sessions that included presentations in commerce, infrastructure security, public policy and life sciences. Participating in the life sciences session "Military and Regional Medical Preparedness for Homeland Security" were Brooks City-Base speakers Col. Virgil Jefferson, with the U.S. Air

Force School of Aerospace Medicine, and Dr. Jonathan Stapley and Kathleen Killen with the Texas Center for Applied Technology. Other session presenters were Dr. Harold Timboe, associate vice president for administration at the University of Texas Health Science Center and Dr. Sam Sanchez, environmental health administrator for the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District.

The session theme focused on safeguarding public health during natural disasters and acts of terrorism. Jefferson conveyed the Department of Defense's role in addressing homeland security medical issues through a presentation on Expeditionary Medical Support team capabilities. He described how US-AFSAM-trained EMEDS teams provided medical assistance to flood victims in Houston last year as part of DoD's humanitarian disaster relief effort prompted by Tropical Storm Allison.

Killen, a Texas Engineering Experiment Station associate research engineer, presented a briefing on creating partnerships and collaborations that she had earlier given to the Brooks City-Base Corporate Council Working Group.

"TEES is the state component of the Brooks City-Base team. Our objectives are to provide the Brooks Development Authority with research partners, energy conservation technology and marketing to new (City-Base) tenants," Killen said. She also described several Brooks City-Base assets that session participants could leverage including the Brooks Technology Transfer Center and TEES organizations: Brooks Energy and Sustainability Lab, Aircraft Sustainability Lab and Environmental Division.

Stapley, session chair and director of the Texas Center for Medical Strategy,

See Summit, page 8



The *Discovery* is published by Prime Time Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the United States Air Force, under exclusive contract with Brooks Air Force Base, Texas.

This commercial enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the military services. Contents of the *Discovery* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the United States Government, the Department of Defense or the United States Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts and supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or *Prime Time Corp.* of the products or services advertised.

Everything in this publication is edited, prepared and provided by the 311th Human Systems Wing Public Affairs Office of Brooks Air Force Base. Material for the *Discovery* should be typewritten, double-spaced and submitted to 311HSW/PA, 2510 Kennedy Circle, Brooks AFB, TX 78235-5115 by noon the Wednesday prior to the week of publication. All photos are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated. Articles may also be submitted by fax by calling 536-3235 or by e-mail.

Articles may be submitted by e-mail to: Cerise.Shapiro@brooks.af.mil or to: Discovery@brooks.af.mil.

The *Discovery* is published every other week on Friday. Contact the editor at 536-5141 for more information.

#### **Discovery advertising**

Deadline for display advertising is noon the Friday preceding the publication date. To advertise in the *Discovery*, call 675-4500 or send advertising copy to *Prime Time Military Newspapers, P.O. Box 27040, San Antonio, Texas 78227*.

#### **Discovery Editorial Staff:**

311th Human Systems Wing Commander

Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd

Director of Public Affairs

Larry Farlow

Editor

Cerise Shapiro

(cerise.shapiro@brooks.af.mil)

Assistant Editor

Dale Eckroth

(dale.eckroth@brooks.af.mil)

Public Affairs NCOIC

Staff Sgt. John Jung

Photography

Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez, Jr.

Senior Airman Brandy Bogart

*Discovery* logo  
by Arlene Schirmer



Sylvia Black, Publisher  
Pia Goodman, Prod. Mgr.  
Pat McCain, Classified Mgr.  
Anna Johnson, Business Mgr.  
Diane Bohl, Sales Manager  
Sherry Snoga, Account Exec.  
Rose Stewart, Account Exec.  
Steve Kalaher, Account Exec.

Advertising  
(210) 675-4500  
FAX:  
(210) 675-4577  
E-mail:  
sblack@txdirect.net

William A. Johnson  
President  
Robert L. Jones II  
Chief Operating Officer  
Gregg R. Rosenfeld  
Senior Vice President Sales  
and Marketing

**Community Newspapers:**  
North San Antonio Times — Northside Recorder  
Bulverde Community News — Southside Reporter  
The Herald

#### **Military Newspapers:**

Fort Sam Houston News Leader  
Lackland Talespinner — Kelly Observer  
Medical Patriot — Randolph Wingspread  
Brooks Discovery

#### **Specialty Publications:**

Daily Commercial Recorder  
San Antonio Medicine — San Antonio Lawyer  
Que Pasa!

**Graphics & Printing Services:**  
Prime Time Graphics  
Christopher Press (Web printing)

The *Discovery* is online.  
Go to <http://www.brooks.af.mil/HSW/PA/discovery>.

# Commentary



## Unsung heroes expect us to carry on



**By Col. Cynthia Snyder**  
11th Civil Engineer Squadron commander

BOLLING AIR FORCE BASE, D.C. (AFPN) — Oftentimes we find ourselves going at such a fast pace that we skip lunch, miss medical appointments, rise up before 5 a.m. to work out because we cannot afford to lose the time during the day — and the list goes on and on. Unfortunately, we do not always take time to share a meaningful exchange with our coworkers or subordinates, or even with a friendly face on the bus or subway.

It was a hot Saturday afternoon in August 2001, shortly after assuming squadron command, that I stopped by the heat plant on base to say hello to some of my folks. That conversation reconfirmed the importance of taking the time to get to know your people.

Many of us have read about Gen. Douglas MacArthur's bold landing at Inchon, Korea, which averted a potential disaster and set the stage for our forces to go on the offensive and push northward during the early stages of the Korean War. Merely viewing photographs of our troops at war in Korea causes one to marvel at the enormous hardships they faced and overcame. But to actually talk to one "who was there," however, and hear him recount some of the critical days during the war, left me awestruck.

Lawrence (Larry) Gray was a corporal in the 3rd Infantry Division in 1950. He served and fought in some of the most brutal conditions ever faced by American troops — the operation to relieve the Marines trapped by Chinese Communist troops at the Chosin Reservoir.

Mr. Gray recounted the brutal cold, sometimes as low as 30 degrees below zero, and how there was little food during the 18 to 20 days of desperate combat, and how his division survived on grapefruit juice during this period.

A few months later, I was reminded that

Mr. Gray, while unique, is not rare.

Just last week, I was returning from a meeting when a tall elderly gentleman, who walked with a cane to ease his bad limp, boarded the subway car I was on. I offered him my seat.

Observing my uniform, he proudly began sharing his military experience with me and even proudly showed me his retired identification card.

He had entered the military in 1945 and had served in every war and conflict through Vietnam, primarily in the infantry. He was especially proud of being part of the Berlin Airlift. While serving in Vietnam he was seriously wounded and lost his leg as a result.

As I listened intently to every word he shared, I noticed tears flowing from his eyes as he shared not only his experiences, but called his friends by name, many of whom did not return. But despite all that had happened, he was so proud to have served in the world's greatest armed forces, and he had no regrets.

How many "Mr. Grays" and individuals like the gentleman on the subway are in your midst right now and perhaps waiting to share a special bond with you? The patriotism and professionalism of both gentlemen is a reminder of the heritage of which we, who currently wear the uniform of the greatest armed forces in the world, are a part. Their conversations are a reminder of the thousands of servicemembers, civilians and their families' selfless service to this great nation.

These gentlemen did not complain because their names were not included in the numerous writings about these events — that is not why they served.

They served in answer to the call of this nation and they rightly assume we will do our part, when called upon, to continue the tradition of selfless service and if necessary, go beyond the call of duty to get the job done.

Then, perhaps, we will follow them by taking our own place among the ranks of the proud but unsung.



# AFMC wing reorganization Oct. 1 has minimal impact on Brooks

By 2nd Lt. Gailyn Whitman

AFMC Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFMCNS) — Air Force Materiel Command underwent a wing reorganization Oct. 1, but changes will be limited since the command's centers are the primary mission organizations rather than standard wings.

The change is part of the Combat Wing Reorganization that culminates a year-long Air Force Chief of Staff Logistics Review which determined that a base-level logistics process change was necessary to meet customer needs and improve Air Expeditionary Forces readiness and deployment.

Gen. John Jumper, Air Force chief of staff, approved the AFMC wing reorganization June 20. Initial operating capabilities must have been achieved by Oct. 1, and full operating capabilities must be achieved by Sept. 30, 2003. AFMC experts said they plan on achieving full operating capability well in advance of the Sept. 30 date.

The new organization will be comprised of an operations group organized to operate air and space weapons systems, a maintenance group organized to maintain these complex weapons systems, and a mission support group organized to enhance direct mission support for expeditionary, rapid reaction and contingency-based forces, according to Bob Hostler, AFMC Plans and Programs Directorate organizational analyst.

"The Combat Wing Organization will be reorganized to align the groups and squadrons with the Air Force core competencies," Jumper said.

He said each wing will continue to have a medical group which will not be reorganized, but will continue with its mission to maintain a fit and ready force.

The impact of the Combat Wing Reorganization at AFMC centers will be minimal except for test wings at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., and air base wings at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M., and Hill Air Force Base, Utah.

These will see a significant change as each wing will stand up a new maintenance group, Hostler said.

Functionally led groups such as communications and civil engineering groups which exist at some AFMC installations where A-76 or MEO activity has occurred, will remain unchanged, Hostler said.

"All wing maintenance functions will be organized under the newly formed maintenance group, while all wing supply, transportation, contracting and aerial port functions will be organized under the newly formed mission support group," Jumper said.

AFMC air base wings that currently have maintenance functions located in a logistics group will stand up the new maintenance group, Hostler said. Air base wings that currently have support groups will be redesignated as mission support groups.

In addition, review experts recommended that wing-level material management processes be integrated under a single authority responsible for base-level supply and transportation functions and designated as logistics readiness squadrons or division, aligned under the mission support group.

A logistics readiness squadron or division will stand up at every center to perform the transportation, supply and logistics planning mission Hostler said.

Although some reorganization will take place in the command, Hostler said the new CWO reorganization will not result in any lost jobs. A recent memorandum of agreement reached with the American Federation of Government Employees Union Council 214 establishes that no reduction in force will occur due to the reorganization. The agreement notes the possibility of minor changes in job description, but job responsibilities will remain essentially unchanged, Hostler said.

The new structure of the logistics readiness squadron or division will result in new career paths and training opportunities for civilian employees within the organization, he said.

For more information about the Combat Wing Reorganization, contact Brooks manpower office.

# Air Base Group changes name, not mission

By Rita Boland

Staff writer

The Air Force redesignated the 311th Air Base Group at Brooks took on a new name when it was redesignated as the 311th Mission Support Group, Sept. 30 during a ceremony at Hangar 9. According to base officials, the mission remains the same.

"What we do is mission support," said Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd, 311th Human Systems Wing commander. "That's easy to understand. We celebrate a name change redesignation because it's a military tradition. Because we don't have a kick the tires, light the fires mission, military tradition is especially important (to Brooks)."

In his speech, Dodd emphasized the importance of an organization's flag.

"The flag is what rallies the troops," Dodd said. "That flag is what would lead you into battle."

Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. John Jumper gave the order to realign all wings into Standard Wing Organization, which includes operation groups, maintenance groups and mission support groups.

According to the Air Force Public Affairs Office, "The standard wing organization creates a consistent structure across the entire Air Force and is not dependent upon the mission of the wing, whether it is combat, mobility, space, training wing, etc.."

The mission and day-to-day operations of the 311th Mission Support Group will not change. The only real difference is the name of the organization.

"The Chief of Staff feels this is the best way to organize his wings," said Col. John Bowley, 311th Mission Support Group commander. "We don't feel any additional pressure. We're doing what we always do. The air base group has had many commanders, but I am now the first commander of the Mission Support Group. I feel nothing but privilege."

The redesignation ceremony began, as military ceremonies do, with the arrival of the official party,



Photo by Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

**Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd, 311th Human Systems Wing commander, left, and Col. John Bowley, 311th Mission Support Group commander, participate in the recent re-designation ceremony at the former 311th Air Base Group. The ABG became the MSG as part of an Air Force-wide restructuring.**

the presenting of the colors and the singing of the national anthem.

The highlight of the ceremony was the furling of the 311th Air Base Group flag and the unfurling of the 311th Mission Support Group flag by Dodd and Bowley. The only variance on the organization's flag is the name change from 311th Air Base Group to 311th Mission Support Group.

"I never knew the importance of this ceremony until I saw the Air Base Group flag rolled up with such dignity and the new flag was brought out," Bowley said. "When you consider the hard work by hundreds of men and women who served faithfully under that flag, it was truly a privilege to participate with my wing commander in retiring that flag."

All air base groups were required to complete their redesignations by Oct. 1. At Brooks, Oct. 1 began with the changes already in place, but the mission hadn't changed.

Rita.Boland@brooks.af.mil



## Combined Federal Campaign officially underway at Brooks

**By Rita Boland**

Staff writer

The Combined Federal Campaign began at Brooks Oct. 2 with a breakfast ceremony at the Brooks Club. The six-week charity fundraiser ends Nov. 13.

Brooks' goal for CFC is \$253,000, supported by Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd, 311th Human Systems Wing commander. The goal is based on the number of personnel and income levels.

"When you really stop to look around at others — particularly outside the military — you realize how much most of us are blessed," Dodd said. "This is just one opportunity to share some of that blessing."

"Nobody should feel forced to give. Giving must be done freely and always has to be balanced with the needs of the family. Only then can you give with a glad heart," he added.

Individual organizations also have donation goals.

"Two hundred fifty-three thousand dollars is a goal, not a requirement," said Capt. Andrea Gooden, the wing project officer. "The general's goal is 100 percent education."

Key workers in each wing organization and tenant unit provide the education, informing personnel about the campaign and its goals.

During the 2001 CFC drive, the San Antonio area raised the third largest amount, with contributions totaling around \$5 million.

An overseas organization and an area in Pennsylvania raised the first and second highest totals, respectively.

"San Antonio has an extremely large number of federal employees," Gooden said. "I think the people who run the campaign do a very good job."

The CFC is an annual fundraiser that raises money for local, national and international organizations. Federal employees, military and civilian, can donate a one-time lump sum or have allotments removed from their paychecks. No minimum or maximum amounts are set.

"(The CFC) gives federal employees a chance to help, but we're not constantly inundated," Gooden said.

Once an employee has designated an allotment amount, the amount can be changed only by an individual's visit to the finance office. Contractors can also make a one-time donation, but because of differing payrolls, no monthly allotments may be set.

Federal employees in the San Antonio area can choose to donate to 1,400 different organizations, ranging from the Fisher House on Lackland Air Force Base to the American Red Cross.

Employees can designate their contributions for a specific charity or charities or leave their funds non-designated. People should take caution, however, because non-designated funds could support an organization contrary to an individual's beliefs, like pro-life or pro-choice organizations, if others in the area donated to those charities.

"Some people honestly don't care (where their contributions go)," Gooden said. "Some people feel very strongly."

**“When you really stop to look around at others, particularly outside the military, you realize how much most of us are blessed. This is just one opportunity to share some of that blessing.”**

**Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd**  
311th Human Systems Wing commander

Non-designated funds are distributed by percentage to all the charities that received designated funds. The charities people specifically designate money to are seen as the charities that matter to the area.

"It's representing the voice of the community," Gooden said. "These are the charities we want to give to. Most organizations do get something."

All money raised jointly, like the funds from taco sales, is marked as non-designated.

The United Way helps to organize the CFC, training project officers and key workers and providing loaned executives to various federal organizations. The loaned execs help keep the program on track, arrange for speakers and answer questions.

The success of this year's campaign will be tracked and announced throughout the campaign.

Rita.Boland@brooks.af.mil



Photo by Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

**Leslie Mouton, a KSAT-12 television anchor, speaks to members of the Brooks community during the Combined Federal Campaign kickoff breakfast at the Brooks Club Oct. 2. Mouton shared stories of her battle with breast cancer over the last few years.**

### Give, that you may receive

**By Rita Boland**

Staff writer

People donate to the annual Combined Federal Campaign for a myriad of reasons. They donate for personal or professional reasons. Maybe they have a family member who has been helped by an organization or they want to support research in order to solve the heart of the problem.

Brooks CFC project officer, Capt. Andrea Gooden, has experienced personally the rewards of donating to charity.

When Gooden entered the military, she was a single working mother with two daughters. A second lieutenant fresh out of nursing school, she knew she couldn't contribute much, but she wanted to give.

"I can't remember if I gave \$25 or \$50 each of my first two years," Gooden said. "I gave to the Boys and Girls Club because I already had two daughters."

Since those first two years, Gooden has continually donated to the CFC in some form. Last year, her oldest daughter started college with money from her parents and scholarships.

One of those scholarships, in the amount of \$1,000, came from the Boys and Girls Club.

"I never dreamed it would touch us that directly," Gooden said. "After that I decided to do as much as I can every year."

Gooden knows that being the project officer, or even a key worker, every year is unrealistic, but she plans to contribute by educating people about the fundraiser and aiding those working directly for the CFC.

"You just never know how it's going to come back to you," Gooden said.

Anyone at Brooks who has been personally affected by one of the CFC charities, or knows someone who has, and would like to share their story is encouraged to contact the Discovery.

Rita.Boland@brooks.af.mil



# Three Brooks employees claim Excellence in Government Awards

By Rita Boland

Staff writer

Three members of the Brooks community won Excellence in Government Awards Sept. 20 during the 25th Annual Excellence in Government Awards Ceremony, hosted by the Alamo Federal Executive Board, at the Omni Hotel in downtown San Antonio.

Of the 10 categories awarded, Brooks took three. Frank Castaneda III of the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence took first in the professional category while Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis' Donna Greenwalt received the customer service award, and AFIERA student aide Melissa Ruiz won in the student category.

Although all Federal agencies in San Antonio compete for the awards, Brooks tied for the most first-place awards with Lackland Air Force Base.

"I was surprised and honored," Castaneda said.

Each winner competed

against five other finalists and received a plaque in the shape of the Alamo. Ruiz, who attends our Lady of the Lake University, also won a \$500 cash scholarship.

"I was so excited and surprised," Ruiz said. "We sat down to have lunch with the other candidates. I have no idea what set me apart."

Brooks nominated 12 employees for the awards and eight were finalists in their respective categories. The nominees represented the 311th Human Systems Wing, Air Intelligence Agency/68 Intelligence Operations Squadron and the 311th Human Systems Program Office.

"Of the 10 categories, Brooks had finalists in eight," Greenwalt said. "That's phenomenal. I think the folks who participated in this should feel so good about themselves. We did good."

San Antonio's KENS-TV5 weatherman Bill Taylor served as master of ceremonies for the event, attended by nearly 500 people.

Rita.Boland@brooks.af.mil

## October Promotions

The following Brooks enlisted personnel have been selected for promotion to the next highest grade in October.

### To Airman:

**Joseph Runyan**  
U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine  
**Vladimir Taub**  
USAFSAM

### To Airman First Class:

**William Jefferson**  
311th Communications Squadron  
**Christina Yatsko**  
USAFSAM

### To Senior Airman:

**Robert Elbrecht**  
68th Information Operations Squadron  
**Imuentiyan Evans**  
311th Medical Squadron  
**Dale Hodge**  
311th Human Systems Wing

### Andrew Harvey

68th IOS  
**Ashley Potts**  
311th Security Forces

### Christopher Rangel

311th CS  
**Jeffrey Rios**  
311th CS

### Gonzalo Rodriguez

311th CS  
**Orlando Rodriguez**  
311th CS

### To Technical Sergeant:

**Timothy Walters**  
USAFSAM  
**Ethel Easter**  
311th MDS  
**Thomas Ray**  
311th CS

### To Master Sergeant:

**Mary Rogers**  
Air Force Medical Operations Agency

The following Brooks officers will be promoted to the rank indicated during the month of October.

### To Lieutenant Colonel:

**Michael McIntyre**  
311th HSW

### To Major:

**Robert Gholson**  
311th HSW  
**Donald Johnston**  
311th HSW  
**Ruben Trevino**  
311th HSW

### To Captain:

**Nora Merritt**  
311th HSW  
**Richard Scott**  
311th HSW

### To First Lieutenant:

**Clay Roberts**  
311th HSW



# A Year of the Family success — organizational health centers, employee assistance programs get green light

**Susann Baker**

311th Human Systems Wing

Air Force Materiel Command recently set itself apart as the first Defense Department organization to fully adopt Employee Assistance Programs and Organizational Health Centers to help civilian employees with emotional or mental health issues.

These Defense Department-unique initiatives came after AFMC leaders pledged \$1.3 million to establish programs and centers to take better care of the command's people, and ushered in another "Year of the Family" success story in the process.

Employee Assistance Programs all across the command, as well as Organizational Health Centers at Robins Air Force Base, Ga., and Tinker AFB, Okla., are scheduled to open their doors in fiscal 2003 as part of an AFMC Year of the Family quality of life initiative, according to Mel Waldgeir, 311th Human Systems Wing's Human Resources director and Brooks' EAP champion. Waldgeir also said the initiative received full support from the AFMC Labor Management Partnership Council.

Funding for the Organizational

Health Centers at all remaining AFMC bases, including Brooks, is slated for fiscal 2004.

The EAPs will provide AFMC's 60,000 plus civilian employees and their families free, voluntary and confidential counseling on things like family or job-related problems, stress, depression, anxiety or other individual issues that could impact the employee's work performance, Waldgeir said.

Focused on similar work performance hindrances, OHCs are geared for improving organizational health. They provide help for all workers, military and civilian, where units might be experiencing low morale, poor communication, workplace violence, bullying or a list of other issues.

"There will be licensed mental health providers and counselors available to help people deal with their problems whenever they have them," Waldgeir said. The goal is for people who are having difficulties to return to a productive state where they're happier and more productive at work.

AFMC employs the Air Force's largest civilian workforce, and no other Air Force major command or DoD organization has anything close to the proposed scope of care the EAPs

and OHCs will provide.

Some 68 percent of the total AFMC workforce is civilian, and the EAPs and OHCs are meant to help them. "Since we have the most civilians, it makes sense that we'd be in the forefront of taking care of them," said Lt. Col. David Arreola, AFMC's Year of the Family Office director. He emphasized the initiatives come from command leaders desires to provide service their people need and deserve.

"Our industry counterparts have organizational development specialists — masters and doctorate level folks who are professionals in helping their organizations. That's what we've done here," he said.

"We've hired professionals who have experience and know-how in dealing with organizations as clients to help them become more productive and to help take care of conflict and other things that happen between people in organizations."

AFMC's EAP and OHC counselors must have master's level work experience and education in social work, counseling or psychology, Arreola said.

"Actually, many of them have their doctorate," he said. "We want to make sure we have this level of provider so we can trust, and our people can trust, that the person they're going to isn't just someone off the street, but someone under a credentialed shingle."

Tinker; Edwards AFB, Calif.; and Kirtland AFB, N.M.; already have full service EAPs, Arreola said. But a soon-

to-be-signed contract allows all AFMC-serviced civilians, not just the civilians at those three bases, to have access to these services and for the services to be command funded.

Arreola said the services will also be available to people assigned to the command's smaller bases and geographically separated units with at least 10 civilians assigned via an off-site counselor in their county.

"I hope people realize that this is a way leadership is saying they are concerned, are listening and want to help," Arreola said. "These EAPs and OHCs will not only impact our workers now, but recruitment and retention in the future."

When addressing these two programs, the AFMC commander had his own comments for AFMC people as well. "We think these are two great initiatives to support our people in AFMC," said Gen. Lester Lyles, "and we're very proud to lead the Air Force in establishing these two initiatives."

"We want to make sure we have a corporate response for taking care of our civilians. Part of private industry has these things available; now we'll have them within AFMC," said Arreola.

According to Waldgeir, the EAP program will become available to Brooks civilian employees in October with the activation of a 1-800 number. The Organizational Health Center will activate at Brooks in fiscal 04. More information as well as the 1-800 number will be provided to all employees as soon as it becomes available.



# ACTION LINE

## 536-2222

The COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE is your opportunity to make Brooks a better place to live, work and play.

If you have a suggestion for improvement, a complaint or a problem that you have not been able to resolve through normal complaint channels or the chain of command, call the COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE, 536-2222.

Only items of general interest will be published, so please leave your name and number for a personal response.

The base agencies listed below can be contacted directly:



**Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd**

311th Human Systems Wing commander

311th Security Forces Squadron .....	536-2851
SFS after duty hours.....	536-2851
311th Civil Engineer Squadron.....	536-3861
311th Communications Squadron.....	536-6571
311th Air Base Group Logistics Division.....	536-3541
Safety.....	536-2111
Housing Maintenance.....	533-4100
Housing Office.....	536-1840
311th Services Division.....	536-2545
311th Medical Squadron (Clinic).....	536-4715
Military Personnel.....	536-1845
Civilian Personnel.....	536-3353
Military Pay.....	536-5778
Civilian Pay .....	536-8370
I.G. (FWA) .....	536-2358
Military Equal Opportunity .....	536-2584
EEO Complaints.....	536-3702
BXMarket .....	533-9079
Brooks Development Office .....	536-3372
Brooks City-Base Marketing and Development Office.....	536-5366



## Brooks Family Support Center activities

Call 536-2444 for information

### Sponsor training

**10-11 a.m., June 11, Bldg. 537** — In accordance with Air Force Instruction 36-3011, sponsor training is mandatory for all first-time sponsors and those who have not sponsored within the past year. Others are welcome to attend and learn about tools and resources available for sponsors.

### Veteran's benefits assistance

**8 a.m.-noon, Wednesdays, Bldg. 537** — Do you have questions about your VA benefits or need assistance filling out your VA claims? A VA representative is on-site every Wednesday to provide consultations, medical record screening and assistance with medical claims, by appointment only. Two copies of medical records are required. Call 536-2444 to schedule an appointment.

### Resume workshop

**10 a.m.-noon, Oct. 22, Bldg. 537** —

Learn the different resume styles and how to write and use them effectively to open career opportunities, and the do's and don'ts of resume development.

Call 536-2444 for all classes at Brooks.

### Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd, 311th Human Systems Wing commander, has proclaimed October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Throughout the month all levels of government join in an attempt to prevent the occurrence and reduce the severity of maltreatment in families.

If you and your spouse argue excessively, shout, push and shove each other, or if your behavior is even more excessive, you are teaching your children how to behave.

Family therapy and positive behavior changes greatly reduce the chances of a child choosing a mate who will follow the same patterns of behavior.

The Brooks Family Advocacy Program's objectives are to reduce family conflict, increase cohesion; reduce parenting deficiencies and increase competence; reduce social isolation and increase networking; organize community response in reducing family conflict and strengthening families.

Join the Family Advocacy Program from 2-3 p.m. Oct. 17 at the Base Chapel for the annual Domestic Violence Awareness observance. Ileta Sumner, General Counsel for the Battered Women's Shelter will discuss statistics, trends and ways to lower the number of abused individuals.

Contact Elizabeth Thompson, Family Advocacy Program, at 536-5301 for more information.



## Summit

*Continued from Page 1*

**“** The tragic events of Sept. 11 traumatized all of us. The fear caused by terrorism and the increased security now required inhibit open trade and cultural exchange. **”**

**Ciro Rodriguez**  
U.S. Representative

Training and Readiness, focused on TC-MEDSTAR's mission to organize, train and equip a consortium of stakeholders to meet the public health challenges associated with large-scale natural disasters or weapons of mass destruction.

"We focus on known vulnerabilities ('gaps'). The (recent) 'Pale Horse' exercise, that simulated the proliferation of small pox in San Antonio, quickly pointed out the limitations of immunization technology. We certainly need an oral vaccine to fill that gap," Stapley said.

The Centers for Disease Control's current strategy is to eventually inoculate one million Americans with small pox vaccines using needles, a 19th century technology.

Stapley's remarks underscored the summit's primary goal of promoting collaborations through networking.

During an earlier life sciences session, Dr. Mary Pat Moyer described the progress being made by the INCELL Corporation to develop an oral small pox vaccine.

"The biggest challenge is determining the threat, its potential and identifying resources to combat it. We also must provide the very best information to our community that will help lower the level of panic and fear," said Sanchez, whose organization is a frequent mass casualty exercise participant. He added, "Pub-

lic health (practitioners) need to cultivate new partnerships to help manage events that crosses borders."

Besides bioterrorism, Sanchez said, a natural event such as the spread of the West Nile virus is a major public health threat.

He said public health professionals are first responders to natural or manmade disasters. "We need faster analysis to determine if a pathogen (disease-causing organism) was released with the intent to harm," he said.

Timboe added, "Today we find ourselves with new challenges and a new orientation toward improving our nation's public health infrastructure."



*Photo by Rudy Purificato*

**Paul Martin, chairman of the Regional Economic Development Authority for Regina, Canada, was one of hundreds of people who visited the Brooks City-Base booth at the recent Trilateral Technology Summit in San Antonio.**

He said more public-private partnerships need to be developed that will foster research to counter the looming specter of bioterrorism. Timboe said, "Thomas Jefferson understood that the health of the people is really the foundation upon which their happiness and the power of the state depends."

*Rudolph.Purificato@brooks.af.mil*

## Special emphasis seminar focuses on employment forecast

The Special Emphasis Employment Program Managers at Brooks will host a two-day training seminar at the Radison Hotel, 502 West Durango Blvd. in downtown San Antonio, Oct. 17-18.

The seminar theme, "Building an Employment Future: Employment, A Community Concern," focuses on the local community's employment forecast within the federal and private sectors. The goal is to help government employees adapt to ever-changing work environments. Federal, state and local employees are invited to attend.

The registration fee is \$75, which includes refreshments, conference sessions, and keynote luncheon. Registration deadline has been extended to Oct. 11.

For more information, seminar agenda, and registration forms, visit the website at: <https://hsuya2.brooks.af.mil/common/mil-gov/SEPM/Flyer.htm> or call Fred Washington at 536-5825 or Alice Sanders at 536-2107.



## Fitness center staff is "on the ball" with novel recycling project

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

While Mother Nature has its own way of recycling such things as cats' hair balls, the Brooks Fitness Center staff has taken recycling disposable plastic wrap to the extreme by creating an ever-growing sphere they call "The Ball."

Weighing in at a hefty 60 pounds, the unusual object was sometimes perched atop the customer service desk, a product of three months' worth of hand wrapping plastic wrap taken from laundered towels.

"One day I was playing around with a piece of plastic wrap that I rolled into a small ball. I started adding (plastic) to it every day," said the oddity's creator Pablo Segura Jr., a fitness center specialist who claims to have never done anything like this before.

Before long, Segura had co-workers "wrapped up" in the project that has given additional meaning to the word oddball. "Tim Martin (fitness center specialist) and I take turns rolling it over layers of plastic. Janie saves the plastic for us," said Segura.

So far, they have consistently "balled things up" with the clinging plastic sheets that were previously used as packaging material for thousands of gym towels. "It's still manageable, but when it gets too big we plan to store it in a shed," explains Segura.

For now, "The Ball" is on temporary display for customers who have become increasingly attached to this overgrown version of a paperweight. In Ripley's "Believe It Or Not" world, "The Ball" has become an inanimate celebrity.

"Some of our customers have drawn smiley faces on the (various) layers. One guy jokingly threatened to kidnap it and hold it



Photo by Rudy Purificato

**Brooks Fitness Center staff Pablo Segura Jr. and Janie Chavarria cling to an ever-growing ball of plastic wrap.**

for ransom. All of us are having fun with it," said Segura who admits that he never dreamed it would develop such a following.

"The Ball's" popularity has expanded into a tourism destination. Says Segura, "A couple came into the fitness center to (just) see "The Ball." When they first came in, I thought they had come to work out."

Chavarria has checked with the Guinness Book of World Records to see if their gift-wrapped companion has a "snowball's chance in the Texas heat" of making it into the publication. "The book lists balls of string, tin foil and rubber bands, but not plastic wrap," Chavarria noted.

However, the purpose for creating it was not based on whimsy. "We want to promote recycling," Segura said. Eventually, this oddity will be turned in for recycling on Earth Day 2003. By then, it should be the size of King Kong's gallstone.

"We estimate it will weigh about 200 pounds," Segura said, noting that he doesn't plan to create the world's largest hernia to move it.

Rudolph.Purificato@brooks.af.mil



# Feature

## Hudson will always have a song in her heart

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Blessed with a revitalized voice that meadowlarks would envy and an electric personality that could power a small city, Tech. Sgt. Angelia Hudson knew early in life that her mission on earth was to use her talents for God's glory.

She has not wavered from a faith-based commitment to share her special gift during a singing career that spans performances with the San Antonio Symphony, country and western recording artists and entertainment legends.

Now Brooks' songbird is winging her way on a non-stop flight from her recent Air Force retirement to a new musical destination filled with endless possibilities.

"I have never thought of (pursuing) a professional singing career," said Hudson who since 1984 has been an integral part of the Brooks and San Antonio musical landscape. The former biomedical laboratory technician for the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis has, however, carved for herself a special place in local musical lore as a performer devoted to community service.

Hudson's most memorable base performances include Brooks retreat ceremony honoring prisoners of war, Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd's Time Capsule burial ceremony, the Rev. Dr. Martin

Luther King birthday celebration and AFIERA director Eric Stephens's promotion ceremony.

She also has been a featured soloist with the Lackland Air Force Base Gospel Ensemble, St. Philip's Community College Choir and the UMOJA Chorale. Hudson has performed at Sea World of San Antonio, Fiesta Texas and the Carver Cultural Arts Center while working with such renowned artists as country music superstar Crystal Gale, entertainer Ben Vereen, legendary singer Andy Williams and TV's "Dukes of Hazard" star John Schneider.

"I started singing when I was about seven years old," said the 40-year-old Jackson, Miss., native. The oldest of three children born to James and Joan Harris, Hudson was influenced early in life by an eclectic interest in Gospel, Motown, blues and country and western music.

As a shy youngster, Hudson per-



Hudson

**“ I sang so much that I developed chronic laryngitis. About seven years ago I had surgery on my vocal cords. ”**

Tech. Sgt. Angelia Hudson  
Musical performer

formed in church choirs and at school. However, she did not excel as a singer until she began vocal training with Lannie Spann McBride at Piney Woods Country-Life School in Piney Woods, Miss. McBride, who had a musical role in the movie "Mississippi Burning," relentlessly worked to improve Hudson's musical skills.

"I was a kid in awe of her. She had the most powerful voice I ever heard. She was a perfectionist who held long rehearsals. She instilled in me to not give up and to appreciate as humbling moments mistakes made during a performance," recalls Hudson.

While Hudson significantly improved under McBride's tutelage, she later overextended herself by singing too much. "I sang so much that I developed chronic laryngitis. About seven years ago I had surgery on my vocal cords. Three vocal nodules were removed. It took a

year for my voice to recover," she said in describing the same type of operation that had ended the singing career of film star Julie Andrews.

Hudson's career took an even stranger direction when her alto voice was altered by the surgery. "My voice came back as a tenor," she said of her new range that she now prefers.

Nevertheless, she had to learn how to use her new voice after completing nearly three years of speech therapy.

Since her surgery, Hudson has been busier than ever as a performer. One of her most recent performances was at a municipal auditorium during a national radio broadcast of "San Antonio Sings" that featured several local civilian and military musical groups.

While she says music "defines her" and serves as a healing therapy in dealing with life's difficulties, Hudson's strength comes from her faith in God and from the love of her family. Husband Giles, a retired Air Force senior master sergeant, and their daughter Simone, have been supportive of her musical career.

"I believe in using your God-given talents," admits Hudson. She demonstrated her always-present song in her heart with an impromptu tune she sang during her retirement ceremony at the Brooks Chapel.

Rudolph.Purificato@brooks.af.mil



Courtesy photo

**Joel Wilks, Kraft Military Region manager, presents Grace Hathaway of Brooks City-Base with a \$1,000 savings bond as a winner in the Kraft-sponsored essay contest recently at Nelson Wolff Stadium in San Antonio.**

## Four local youth receive \$1,000 savings bonds

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AETCNS) — Four military youth received \$1,000 U.S. Savings Bonds recently for winning an essay contest in conjunction with the Air Education and Training Command sponsorship program.

Grace Hathaway, representing Brooks, Alliana Paman, representing Lackland Air Force Base, , Tonjaka Scott, representing Randolph AFB, and Shelby Lynn Kastner, representing Fort Sam Houston, each penned winning entries on the theme, "The Person I Admire," in the Kraft Foods Oscar Meyer Essay Contest.

"The essay contest was the

conclusion of the 'Salute to the Military' program this summer," said John Franklin, commercial sponsorship manager for the AETC Services Directorate. "Earlier in the summer Kraft sponsored a night at the (San Antonio) Missions baseball park for military families."

During a recent pre-game ceremony at Nelson Wolff Stadium, Joel Wilks, Kraft Military Region manager, presented certificates for the saving bonds to the winners.

Grace Hathaway is the daughter of Maj. Scott Hathaway, a resident of Brooks assigned to the Army's San Antonio Recruiting Battalion.



# BROOKS

## SPORT NIGHT

*Things to do around Brooks*

By Jan McMahon  
Brooks Services Marketing Office  
536-5475

### Premiere Designs

#### Bldg. 1154, 536-8648/2120

Premiere Designs, formerly The FrameWorks, is open Monday-Friday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. We no longer do custom framing but offer package deals on a limited basis.

We can now print your business cards for you. Purchase 100 cards for \$10, 250 for \$20 and 500 for \$35. Bring your information and select from different styles and colors. Samples are on display.

Let us add the right touch to any project with laser engraving on the glass. Shadow boxes and coin displays are also still available. We offer balloons, either individual or bouquets. Select from a wide variety of colors for all occasions.

Orders can be placed by e-mailing: [rebecca.estrada@brooks.af.mil](mailto:rebecca.estrada@brooks.af.mil).

### Sidney's

#### Bldg. 714, 536-2077

Family Night is every Tuesday from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at Sidney's. Bring the entire family and enjoy a meal for \$4 for adults and \$2 for children, ages 6-10. Children 5 years and younger eat free. All-You-Can-Eat Italian Nights are scheduled for Oct. 15 and 29 and include spaghetti with meat sauce, lasagna, vegetable blend, garlic bread and pizza pie. Oct. 8 and 22 is All-You-Can-Eat Fried Chicken featuring fried chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetable and rolls. Where else could you get a meal at this price? Coloring sheets are provided as well as the Cartoon Network.

— Football Frenzy is back. Club members have the opportunity to win a trip to a regular season NFL game, the Super Bowl and the Pro Bowl. Fans can watch the games, enter and win prizes at Sidney's.

Join friends for food and football excitement on the big screen television and, as a member, be eligible to win.

This year the "Punch or Punt" frequency card means more entries and chances to win a trip to the Super Bowl in 2004. Grand prize winners receive a trip for two to see the Dallas Cowboys vs. the San Francisco 49ers, the Super Bowl or the Pro Bowl.

Contact the club for additional information on Frenzy activities.

### Outdoor Recreation

#### Bldg. 1154, 536-2881

Sign-up now for A Nuevo Laredo Shopping Trip scheduled for Nov. 16. Spend the day in Nuevo Laredo and complete your holiday gift list or just shop for yourself. The tour bus will cross the border into Nuevo Laredo and make several stops. Visit Guadalajara Pottery and select

unique one-of-a-kind pottery, then the Giganto Mall where you are sure to find everything on your list. Cost is \$25 per person.

The bus departs at 7 a.m., arrives in Laredo at 10 a.m. where brunch will be served, for an additional charge. The bus departs Laredo at 4 p.m. and arrives back at Brooks at 8 p.m. Call the Outdoor Recreation staff and reserve a seat for the trip.

### Youth Activities Center

#### Bldg. 470, 536-2515

Operation Halloween is just around the corner. Ghosts, goblins, ballerinas and clowns will be out and about before we know it.

The Youth Center hosts contests for the best-decorated yard in base housing and best-decorated windows and doors in organizations. Participants should only use flame retardant or fire resistant materials when creating displays. Exit doors may not be decorated.

Organizational doors and windows are judged Oct. 23, and yards are judged the evening of Oct. 24. Ribbons are awarded for first, second and third place in each category the day of judging for organizations and the following day for yards. Register with the Youth Center staff for both contests.

Other activities include a Count the Corn Contest for adults and children and a coloring competition.

A costume contest begins at 5:30 p.m. at the tennis courts across from the Youth Center. Ribbons are awarded to the winners in three categories: most original, cutest and scariest. Age groups are: newborn-3 years, 4-5 years, 6-8 years, 9-12 years and 13-18 years.

Children can "Trick-or-Treat" through base housing from 6 to 8 p.m. Halloween night. Housing residents are provided paper pumpkins, which are displayed outside if they wish to

receive trick-or-treaters.

If you would like to volunteer for Block Watch contact the Youth Center staff. Volunteers are issued a traffic vest and flashlight for Halloween night and play a key role in the youth safety.

— Lights on Afterschool is scheduled Oct. 10 from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at the Youth Center with guest speakers and an appearance by the Brooks Eagle cheerleaders, and crafts and door prize drawings. Lights On Afterschool is the only nationwide event calling attention to afterschool programs and their important role in the lives of children, families and communities. Afterschool programs keep kids safe and improve academic achievement.

Refreshments are served following the program. Contact the center staff for more details.

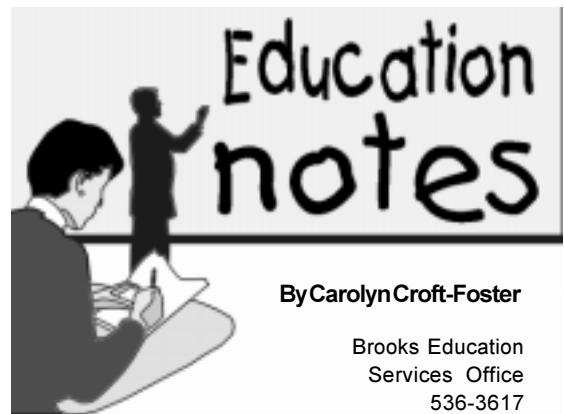
### Fitness Center

#### Bldg. 940, 536-2188

An Integration Ceremony 5K Run/Walk is scheduled for Oct. 16 at 8 a.m. at the Fitness Center to mark the merger between the Fitness Center and Brooks Health and Wellness Center. The merger will provide a wider spectrum of health and fitness programs to the base population. The first 100 people to sign-up receive a commemorative T-shirt. Fruit and Gatorade are provided following the run.

Squadron Challenge Day XII is Oct. 25. Events include a 5K Run, golf, racquetball, tennis, 3-on-3 basketball, one pitch softball, 4-on-4 flag football, 100 meter dash, 4 x 100 relay, tug-of-war and a softball challenge. The Chiefs challenge the Colonels at 2 p.m. A female team coached by Tech Sgt. Marissa Bell has challenged the winner of the Chiefs/Colonels game.

A barbecue is planned for lunch.



By Carolyn Croft-Foster

Brooks Education  
Services Office  
536-3617

## Fall CCAF graduation

The graduation ceremony for Community College of the Air Force, hosted by the Education and Training Flight, is scheduled for Oct. 11 in the Bldg. 775 main auditorium. All members of the Brooks community are invited to attend. Brooks has 49 Fall 2002 graduates.

## CCAF advanced standing

Students wishing to complete their CCAF degrees for Spring 2003 graduation should enroll in courses that will be completed before February. Flex 2 courses are available with the Alamo Community College District and at Park University. To schedule an appointment with an educational guidance counselor, call 536-3617.

## ROTC briefing

The Air Force ROTC Detachment from Southwest Texas State University is scheduled to present a briefing on various scholarship programs available to active duty airmen at 1 p.m. Oct. 18 at Brooks. For more information, call 536-3617.

## Flex 2 registration

Palo Alto College on-base classes begin

Oct. 21. Courses at Brooks include: Speech, Man and His Environment, English, and Algebra. Registration is currently underway at the college. Tuition Assistance is pending release of fiscal 2003 funding, but requests are being taken. For information about registration or to schedule an appointment, call 536-3617.

## Webster University on-base

Webster University offers master's level courses at Brooks and in the San Antonio community. To schedule an appointment with Joyce Peavy, the Webster representative, call 536-3617.

## Tuition assistance

Air Force members soon will benefit from a new Department of Defense tuition assistance policy that pays 100 percent of tuition for off-duty courses, according to Air Force education officials. This policy, effective Oct. 1, will pay tuition costs and mandatory fees up to a maximum of \$250 per semester hour, or \$750 per three-hour course. The policy also includes a \$4,500-per-year tuition assistance ceiling.

Under the new policy, as long as the total cost falls under the authorized total, the student has no out-of-pocket expense for tuition. However, tuition assistance cannot be used to pay for textbooks unless they are included in an academic institution's published tuition rates.

The increase to 100 percent tuition assistance was authorized by Congress two years ago but was not funded until fiscal 2003. The tuition assistance program is the same across the entire Defense Department. Each service had two years to develop a plan to make the programs work together. For more information regarding the new tuition assistance policy, contact Education Services in Bldg. 558.



# Semi-annual AFSC selective reenlistment bonus review slated to begin in December

The semi-annual review of all Air Force Specialty Codes begins in December, with results anticipated in January. The focus is on manning levels, retention trends, training costs, and career field manager's inputs regarding the effects of on-going or future force structure changes. All reenlistment-eligible members, defined as members who have a date of separation one year or less away from the projected reenlistment date, are selected for reassessment/retainability required and the commander has selected them, must be aware of this information prior to reenlisting. If members can delay their reenlistment, they must be provided the

opportunity to do so.

Although the Air Force Personnel Center plans to announce the review results in January, if they are delayed, it could affect members' reenlistment plans.

In accordance with Air Force Instruction 36-2606, paragraph 2.16.1, airmen serving in SRB skills announced for reduction or termination, who are reenlistment eligible must reenlist before the effective date of the termination or reduction to receive the bonus at the previous rate. There is normally a 30-day window between the message release and the effective termination or reduction dates.

Due to the short notice or the January 17 release,

members were authorized to petition the Board for Correction of Military records to request their reenlistment date be changed in order to take advantage of a higher SRB.

Members will not have that opportunity with this release. If they choose not to delay their reenlistment until after the review, changes will not be allowed.

Any member who has reenlisted prior to the release of the message is not eligible to have their reenlistment declared erroneous and reenlist at a later date.

For more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Sharon Portell in Reinlistments and Extensions at 536-6978 or [sharon.portell@brooks.af.mil](mailto:sharon.portell@brooks.af.mil).

## Free dental assistant training program offered

The 59th Dental Squadron at Lackland Air Force Base is accepting applications for the Red Cross Volunteer Dental Assistant Program.

Family members of military members and civilian employees who would like to become dental assistants are invited to apply for this free training opportunity.

The intensive six-month program includes dental anatomy, dental materials, fourhanded dentistry (the ability to hand dental instruments to the dentist during procedures), and radiographic technique training.

Upon graduation, students can take the state radiology test and be fully qualified to take dental x-rays.

The next class begins Nov. 2 and will be held Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Kelly Dental Clinic.

After three weeks of class

room training, students continue clinical training at the Kelly, Dunn or Mackown dental clinics.

"Participants receive a certificate showing they have worked at developing their dental assisting skills and will be accumulating volunteer hours," said Staff Sgt. Ethel Willard-Crews, program coordinator.

"This program would cost thousands of dollars to attend in the civilian sector and we provide all the materials needed for free."

Applicants will be interviewed from Oct. 15 to 18. Prospective candidates must be at least 18 years of age, have a high school diploma or GED, and commit to six months of training.

Contact the Kelly Dental Flight at 925-6647 between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. for more information.





# Feature



Richards

## Q&A

**FULL NAME:**  
Staff Sgt. Ty D. Richards

**DUTY TITLE, ORGANIZATION:**  
Health physics technician,  
radioanalytical counting, Air Force  
Institute for Environment, Safety and  
Occupational Health Risk Analysis.

**WHAT IS MY JOB?**  
Determine levels of radioactivity in  
environmental and occupational  
samples for Air Force and DoD  
customers, Air Force Radiation  
Assessment Team member, Comic  
Relief and Brooks' ambassador.

**BIRTHDAY:**  
July 16, 1971

**HOMETOWN:**  
Nixa, Missouri

**FAMILY STATUS:**  
Married to Mish, the most patient loving  
and forgiving wife on the planet, and  
father to a brilliant, beautiful daughter.

**PERSONAL MOTTO:**  
Cowboy up.

**INSPIRATIONS:**  
My daughter, Rylee. There has been  
no other event in my life that has  
inspired me to be a better human than  
her birth a year ago. My mother and  
father and my co-workers.

**HOBBIES:**  
Spending time with my daughter, riding  
my Harley, playing guitar, singing,  
spending time at the lake, watching hot  
rod TV on Sundays and smoking good  
cigars.

**PET PEEVE:**  
Mowing the lawn, micro-management  
and soggy bread.

**BOOK(S) AT BEDSIDE:**  
Something with pictures.

**I JOINED THE MILITARY BECAUSE:**  
I enlisted during the Gulf War for patriotic  
reasons. I felt like it was my duty, now it's  
my honor to serve.

**ULTIMATE GOAL:**  
To raise the happiest, most confident  
daughter in the world and strive  
everyday to be a better person.

**IF I WON THE LOTTERY:**  
Most of the time I feel like I have. I  
think I'd be shamefully worthless if I did.

**FAVORITE MUSIC:**  
Depends on what I'm doing. Todd Snider  
is in my CD player the most.

**MY GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT:**  
Rylee Gail Richards

**MY MOST PRIZED POSSESSION:**  
is my family.

## Brooks Personality PROFILE

By Rita Boland

Staff writer

Staff Sgt. Ty Richards is a perfect ambassador for Brooks. A man who not only presents himself well, he represents the best of Brooks and the Air Force.

"I love Brooks," Richards said. "(Being an ambassador) is the coolest experience I've ever had in my military career."

Richards has served as a Brooks ambassador since January, attending events in the San Antonio area. Though he has represented Brooks at different functions throughout the year, he worked the most hours and had the most visibility in April during Fiesta.

"Fiesta was a blur," Richards said. "We started in the morning and would go until late, late at night."

Richards represented Brooks at events downtown, in parades and at the Brooks Fiesta Reception, one of the first Fiesta events. He enjoyed the chance to interact with the community and be in the spotlight.

"The sash was like a big, neon, blinking sign," Richards said.

Being an ambassador allowed Richards to meet Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, San Antonio Mayor Ed Garza, the Texas Cavaliers, an organization responsible for many Fiesta events, including the River Parade and the Pilgrimage to the Alamo, large business owners and ambassadors from different organizations.

"All the ambassadors from the different bases are fantastic people," he said.

In addition to civic leaders, Richards met with many citizens from San Antonio, Texas and other regions of the world. "Everyone gets a fair shake," Richards said. "No one gets any special attention."

Ambassadors have to answer questions from media and citizens. Richards's advice to those interested in being ambassadors is to be prepared and unafraid to answer questions and try not to look too surprised at some of the queries.

"Being in the military you assume everyone knows what the military does," Richards said. "It's surprising how little people know about the military."

Despite the craze of Fiesta, Richards favorite event as an ambassador was a parade in Pleasanton where the ambassadors had to adapt to the unexpected. They actually helped assemble the float, partly during the beginning of the parade. "There were pieces of the float just flopping and we were holding on to anything bolted down, hilarious" Richards said.

Going to parades, dinners and dances as an ambassador and most of it is done outside of work. Despite the demands on his time, Richards be-

# Putting his best foot forward



Photo by Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

**Staff Sgt. Ty Richards, a 2002 Brooks' ambassador assigned to the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis, performed at the recent Brooks Air Force Ball.**

lieves the sacrifices are worth the rewards.

"This is wonderful," he said. "I just want to make the absolute best out of this experience."

Richards is a bioenvironmental engineer by trade, but is working a special duty assignment at the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis in health physics and radioanalytical counting. He was an original member of the Field Laboratory to Assess Radiation Exposure team and a member of the Air Force Radiation Assessment Team. He was recruited for the job while taking a short course at the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine.

"I'm working totally out of my AFSC right now," Richards said. "This is a great opportunity to learn something not many people get to experience. I'm in a position here and part of a team that's very special."

One of his supervisors at AFIERA, Senior Master Sgt. Troy Selden, nominated him for the ambassador position.

"I felt honored that he thought I'd do a good job," Richards said.

Richards began his Air Force career as an ammo troop, planning to finish a four-year enlistment and then separate from the service. However, during his tour he decided he could really enjoy the military way-of-life.

"The ammo job was challenging, but in a different way. You could be physically exhausted and not mentally stressed. In Bio it's the other way

around," Richards said.

Richards spends most of his free time with his family, wife Mish and one-year-old daughter Rylee.

"(Rylee) has just given me a new lease on life," he said.

Richards laughed and had the look of total happiness as he told the story of his daughter and her chair. Rylee stands up on her little chair, compliments of her grandma, and her parents tell her to sit down. Now when she stands on her chair, she looks at her parents and then yells "sit down." But she still stands.

The birth of his daughter, and the survival of a serious car wreck have changed his life and given him a self-described inner strength.

"What I've taken from those two events is just trying to be a better person than I have been in the past and live life full throttle. If you want something, go after it," Richards said.

His view of life colors his interactions with others and his attitudes about his work and his situation in life. Richards becomes animated talking about his work or Brooks. He reflects joy when talking about his family. He conveys a desire to approve of those with whom he comes in contact, an excellent quality for an ambassador.

"I love Brooks," Richards said. "I feel like I've always been a Brooks ambassador I just didn't have the sash."

Rita.Boland@brooks.af.mil



# Brooks' community pays tribute to POW/MIAs, retirees

September 20, 2002



Master Sgt. Curtiss Nagle, (left), assigned to the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine, 311th Human Systems Wing Commander Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd and wife Kate, Command Chief Master Sgt. Darlin Evans and Master Sgt. Cornell Johnson, also from USAFSAM, pay respect to the flag during the POW/MIA Remembrance Day ceremonies Sept. 20 near the flag pole at Bldg. 150. Activities included the traditional wreath, flag, and retreat ceremonies in addition to other activities held throughout the day at Hangar 9 in conjunction with Brooks' Retiree Appreciation Day.

Photos by Tech. Sgt. Anita Schroeder and Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.



(Right) — Brooks' Honor Guard members stood the first shift of the day-long silent vigil in honor of POW/MIA Remembrance Day at the Bldg. 150 flagpole Sept. 20.

The POW/MIA flag receives due respect by an honor guard member during POW/MIA Remembrance Day at Brooks.



Members of the Brooks' Honor Guard render a salute during the Table of Honor ceremony in recognition of prisoners of war and servicemembers missing in action on National POW/MIA Remembrance Day, Sept. 20. Brooks' honored retirees with the Second Annual Retiree Appreciation Day in conjunction with POW/MIA Day.



## **Children's health symposium**

The Biennial Scientific Symposium on Children's Health as Impacted by Environmental Contaminants is scheduled for Nov. 1-2 at the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine. Learn about current research supporting four major reasons for the increasing concern about the effects of environmental pollutants on infants and children.

The symposium provides the latest information needed to understand, recognize, and prevent children's exposure to environmental toxicants while addressing recent trends, exemplary projects and current research in developmental effects, asthma and respiratory diseases, endocrine disrupters, and childhood cancer.

Participants will be provided with an overview of biological and chemical terrorism and a Nationwide Environmental Public Health Tracking Network, which documents links between environmental toxins and chronic diseases.

Join physicians and others in attending the symposium sponsored by the Children's Environmental Health Institute, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Physicians for Social Responsibility, Texas Medical Association, The Public Center for Environmental Health, and the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine, Brooks-City Base, and the Air Force Base Conversion Agency.

For more information about the symposium, to download the registration form or register online, visit [www.cehi.org](http://www.cehi.org).

# **NEWS briefs**

### **Altitude test subjects**

Help provide F-22 pilots, high altitude parachute personnel, high altitude reconnaissance pilots and astronauts with adequate equipment and procedures to accomplish their missions without distraction or hazard resulting from exposure to altitude. Several research protocols are being conducted at the High Altitude Protection Laboratory at Brooks to accomplish this mission. Hypobaric (altitude) chamber test subjects can earn \$150 per month for participating in at least one session per month. Each subject must meet Air Force body fat or height/weight standards, be a non-smoker for at least two years, be between 18 and 50 years of age, and be able to pass an appropriate physical exam.

Contact Heather Alexander at 536-3440 or Jim Carlile at 536-3546 for more information.

### **Sleep research participants**

The Chronobiology and Sleep Laboratory at Brooks needs volunteers to participate in a number of ongoing sleep research studies. Interested Air Force and civilian personnel who meet the necessary qualifications are eligible to receive compensation starting at \$10 per hour.

Contact Laura Sanchez at 536-3616 for additional information, or visit the website at: [www.ntiinc.com](http://www.ntiinc.com) and link to "studies."

### **Comptrollers luncheon**

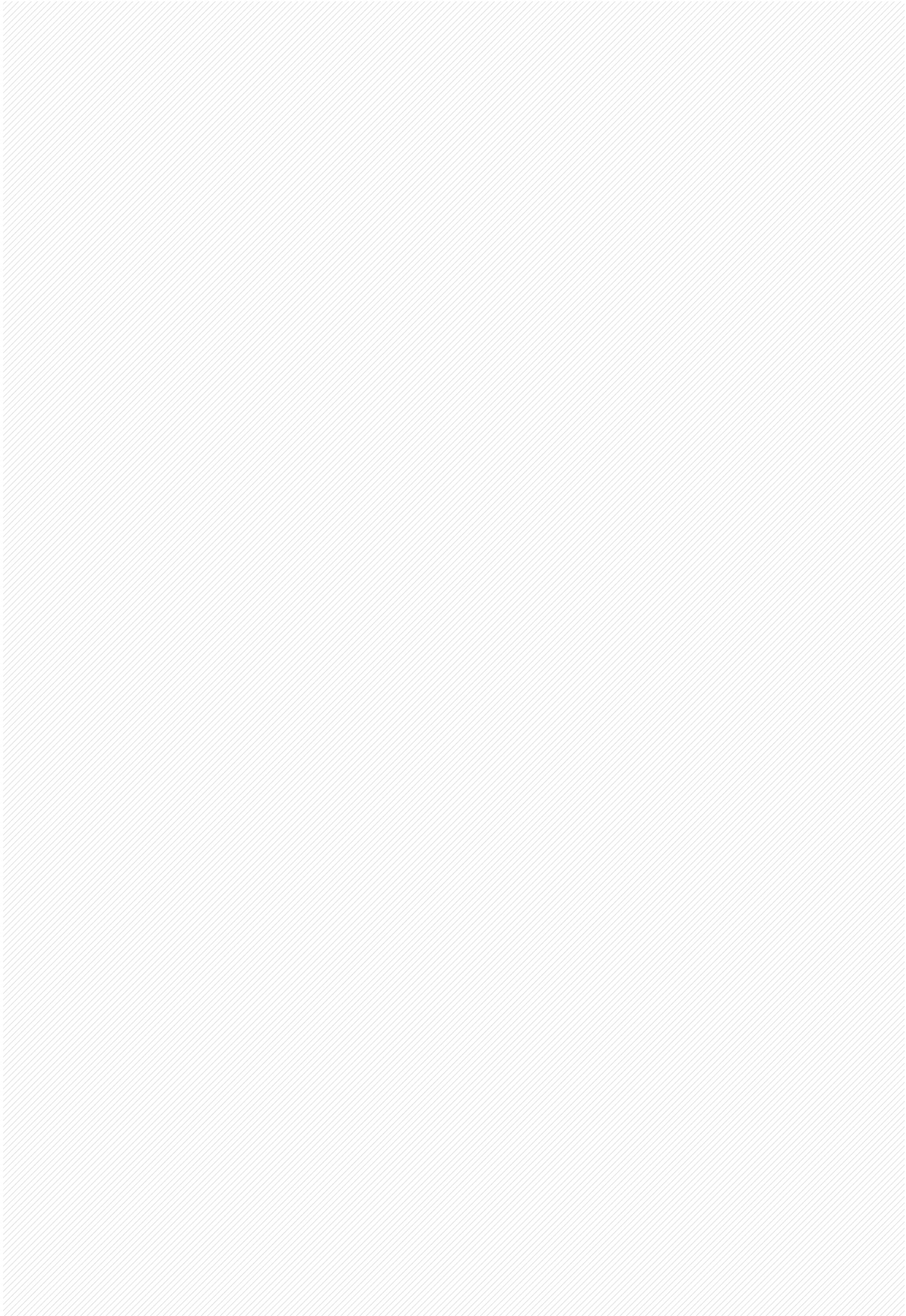
The American Society of Military Comptrollers luncheon, hosted by MEDCOM Fort Sam Houston Garrison, is scheduled for Oct. 24 at Mulligan's Café at the Fort Sam Houston Golf Club on Harry Wurzbach. Lt. Col. David Ardner will speak on Alternative funding sources for healthcare and other innovations. The social begins at 11:30 a.m. and lunch is served at noon.

Contact Betty Ann Rosales at 536-1335 or by email at: [Bettyann.rosales@brooks.af.mil](mailto:Bettyann.rosales@brooks.af.mil) by Oct. 16 for tickets.

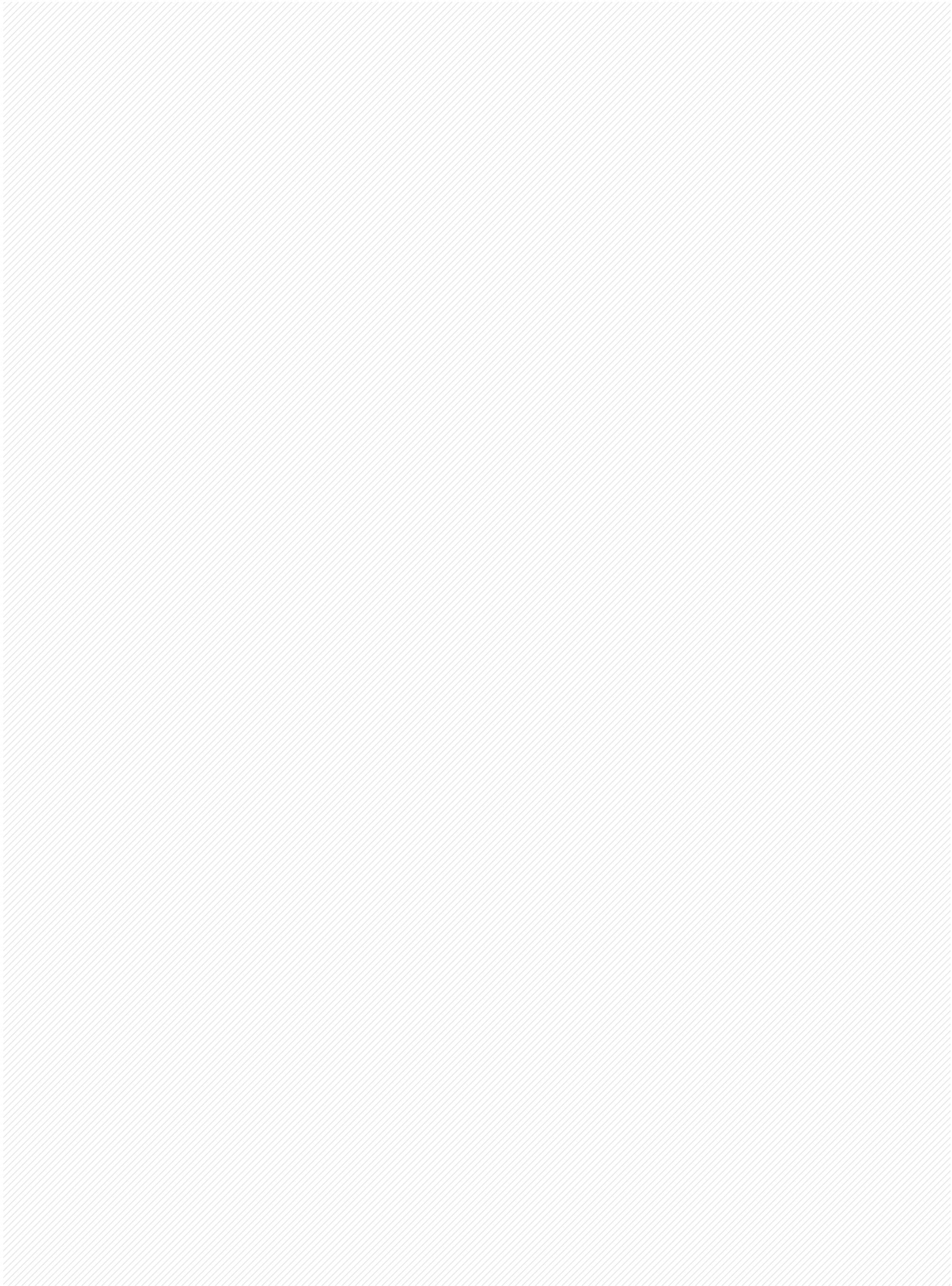
### **Periodontics dept. seeks patients**

The Wilford Hall Medical Center Department of Periodontics at Lackland Air Force Base is seeking patients with specific needs for treatment in the periodontics residency program. The department provides treatment of the gums and bone support of teeth including braces, crowns and bridgework. Applicants must be a military retiree, family member of retirees, or family members of active duty and have been recently determined by a dentist to have an existing periodontal condition. Eligible patients must obtain a written consult from their referring dentist. This consult may be faxed to "Attention, Periodontics" at 292-5193, or brought to the MacKown Dental Clinic during normal business hours to be scheduled for a periodontal evaluation appointment. Patients are selected for treatment based on the needs of the periodontal training program.

For more information, call 292-7273.









# "Blessed" Brooks golfer looks at life differently after surviving cancer

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

The miracle of life is inherently associated with birth. To a Brooks cancer survivor, there's renewed life in near-death.

"You're either touched or blessed by the good Lord," says James Franklin Barfield in a gentle, pleasing tone. His face reveals no signs of stress or any residue of pain. His tranquil demeanor belies the fact that just eight months ago he appeared to have lost his fight with lung cancer.

When Barfield completed the third round at the Air Force Materiel Command golf tournament at Robins Air Force Base, Ga., last month, no one other than his fellow Brooks varsity golf team members knew that, for him, playing there was a personal victory. "For me, it was part of my rehabilitation," he said almost reverently about his first competitive jaunt on the links.

However, there were no thoughts about playing golf or doing anything else but breathing when Barfield was wheeled into the operating room at Wilford Hall Medical Center at Lackland Air Force Base. He would spend his 41st birthday unconscious and in critical condition.

"My blood pressure dropped to nothing," he says, describing his post-surgery condition after doctors had removed his left lung containing a quarter-sized carcinoid tumor. He was on life support for four days with a breathing tube in his remaining lung. Fortunately, the cancer had not spread and eight days later Barfield was discharged from the hospital.

If it weren't for a lunchtime accident at the fitness center during a racquetball game, Barfield would not be alive today. Just after Thanksgiving, Barfield crashed into the wall, hitting his left side. A chest x-ray to determine if he had broken ribs detected the malignant tumor. A biopsy verified that Barfield had the less aggressive type of cancerous tumor. He was relieved by the news. "I felt less stressed," he said, but then had to come to grips with reality.

"The hardest thing I have had to do in life was bury my father. The second hardest thing was telling my mother I had cancer. The third hardest thing was telling my fiancée," he said with great emotion. His mother B.J. and future bride Montserrat Deza joined his colleagues at the 311th Medical Squadron in their unwavering moral support. "My good friends I have here helped me through this. When I was diagnosed, my survival mechanism kicked in. I only told people who needed to know."

Although Barfield had been a smoker, the rare tumor he had is not associated with smoking. "The tumor had been there since 2000. It was in the same location where I had been (earlier) diagnosed with pneumonia," he explained. Pneumonia produces tissue 'streaking' where part of the lung hardens. Barfield speculates that perhaps the streaking may have masked detection of the tumor.

Nevertheless, Barfield didn't have much time to spend wondering how

*"The hardest thing I have had to do in life was bury my father. The second hardest thing was telling my mother I had cancer. The third hardest thing was telling my fiancée."*

James Barfield  
Cancer survivor

or why he got cancer. "I had to prepare for the operation. I had to update my will and power of attorney in case I went into a coma. My motivating factor for getting through this was I didn't want my mother to bury me."

He also turned to his Roman Catholic faith for comfort and guidance. His parish priest at San Fernando Cathedral advised him about the power of prayer. That prayer and his will to live prevailed. The ordeal has profoundly changed his outlook on life.

has become for him an instrument for being at peace. "Life is extremely precious to me. I pay more attention to what I see or hear, whether it is the backfire from a car or birds singing."

As for his favorite pastime, Barfield said, "I look at playing golf now as the ice cream and cookies of life."

When he first left the hospital 36 pounds lighter, Barfield believed that competitive golf was not in his near future. He became bored during his recovery period in which his weight ballooned to 174 pounds, despite a 3-5 day workout regimen that included light weight training and sprints. By mid-April he began swinging the clubs again. "I knew I'd be able to play golf someday. Golf was an extra motivator in my recovery."

He admits being surprised he made the Brooks varsity team because of his physical endurance.

"My force volume output of oxygen is half of what it used to be," he said, explaining that he is always conscious about not taking too deep a breath. While he becomes fatigued more easily, Barfield adapted to tournament play's physical demands. He doesn't plan to retire from a game he has loved since age 14. What he does plan



**The 311th Medical Squadrons' Tech. Sgt. James Barfield considers himself blessed to be able to play golf for the Brooks varsity team after a near-death experience with lung cancer earlier in this year.**

"People ask me if I feel any different. I usually tell them I'm fine, doing well and everything I do is different." Barfield no longer is stressed by life's problems. Where life once was a whirlwind of activity seldom savored, it now

to do is encourage others. Says he, "Don't give up on yourself, family, friends or prayer."

Rudolph.Purificato@brooks.af.mil

## SPORTS SHORTS

### Evans' retirement golf tournament slated for Oct. 24

In honor of Command Chief Master Sgt. Darlin "Big E" Evans' retirement, a golf tournament is scheduled for Oct. 24 at the Brooks Golf Course. Teams of four will compete in the Florida Scramble, beginning with a shotgun start at noon. Cost is \$30 per person and includes fees, golf cart, and a package containing 2 mulligans, 2 throws and three feet of string. Additional items may be purchased at \$2 each or three for \$5 for mulligans and throws, and \$1 per foot of string. Prizes will be awarded to first, second, and third place, longest drive and closest to the hole. Registration and a barbecue luncheon begin at 11 a.m. at the base picnic area, pavilion 1. Contact Chief Master Sgt. Voreda Slone at 536-1552 or Master Sgt. Daniel Radke at 536-3018 for more information or to register early.

### Professional Armed Forces Rodeo Association 2002 World Finals Rodeo

The Professional Armed Forces Rodeo Association 2002 World Finals Rodeo, sponsored by the Ride for the Brand Rodeo Team, is scheduled for Oct. 11-12 at Mansfield Park in Bandera. The two-day rodeo spectacular promises fun and excitement in the hard-ridin', action-packed competition of many cowboys and cowgirls.

Ride for the Brand Rodeo Team is a non-profit organization that raises scholarship funds for deserving high school students in Bandera and San Antonio. The rodeo is sponsored by the U.S. Air Force Reserve, Lopez Brothers Silversmiths, Flying L Guest Ranch, Texas Army National Guard and 92.3 KRNH - The Ranch.

Mansfield Park gates open at 6 p.m. and the rodeo begins at 7 p.m. Admission tickets are \$7 per person. Children age 12 and under are free. Bring the family or friends out for authentic Texas rodeo fun.

For more information or for ticket information call the Bandera Visitor's Center at 800-364-3833.

### Military invited to West Point vs. University of Houston game

The U.S. Military Academy plays the University of Houston Oct. 19 in Houston.

The West Point superintendent has invited all military services to attend as a show of military spirit and unity. Game time is 7 p.m. at John O'Quinn Field in Houston.

Personnel interested in attending should contact Marketing at 536-8057 for information about the availability of discounted group tickets and travel services including airfare, rental car and hotel reservations. More information is also available on the website at: [cougartickets.uh.edu](http://cougartickets.uh.edu).



# Hoop pick-up games contribute to majority of Brooks sports injuries

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Brooks sports-related injuries are on the rise, bolstered by a troubling trend involving lunchtime basketball pick-up games played at the fitness center gym.

Hoop-induced injuries, however, are only part of a growing problem on base that Sports Advisory Council members hope to mitigate through a public awareness campaign. Their message is aimed at helping reduce the number of sports-related accidents that have had an impact on mission support through time lost by injured workers.

"This (situation) is not peculiar to Brooks. It's a problem that exists throughout the Air Force. Unfortunately, there has not been an effective solution to the problem," said Maj. Deborah Olson, Brooks Health and Wellness Center director.

"Basketball injuries are on the increase. It accounts for more injuries than all other sports combined," said Bill Person, an occupational and safety health specialist with the 311th Human Systems Wing Safety Office.

Person raised the issue of sports-related injuries on base during a recent Sports Advisory Council meeting.

A comparative analysis of base-wide injuries suffered during sporting and other recreational activities indicate increases over the past year in the number of incidents and number of people getting hurt.

"We don't see injuries occurring during games that are coached or monitored," Person said, referring to intramural and varsity sports activities. Major injuries are occurring during unsupervised pick-up games, primarily involving basketball.

"It (basketball) is supposed to be a



Photo by Rudy Purificato

**While the Brooks' varsity basketball team has historically suffered few injuries during practices at the fitness center, the majority of sports injuries on base have occurred during pickup games at the base gym.**

non-contact sport, however, people have become overly aggressive. Statistics show that it (situation) has already gotten worse," said Person.

As a consequence, dozens of injuries have resulted from falls and collisions with other players.

"The majority of the injuries involve twisted or sprained ankles and knee injuries," Person added, noting that more serious injuries have resulted in surgery.

While most of these injuries required just one doctor's visit, collectively Department of Defense employees who get hurt cost the government money in lost time.

"A clinic visit, not resulting in any lost time from work, costs the government \$120," Person said, explaining

that the Air Force loses \$375 a day if a military member is incapacitated.

During the past two years, Brooks personnel injured during sporting or recreational activities have cost the Air Force tens of thousands of dollars through hundreds of hours of lost time. Those hours, Person noted, involves work time not weekends.

No sports-related injury statistics are kept on contractor personnel or dependents.

Roy Conatzer, fitness center director, said the problem stems from athletes not heeding safety rules when they play basketball at the gym.

"Safety is an individual respon-

sibility. It takes everyone to play a safe game." Conatzer said aggressive play is a major contributing factor to injuries, as well as players not wearing the proper footwear.

"We have a sign posted on the front door that warns them not to wear dirty shoes on the gym floor," he said, explaining that the fitness center staff advises hoop participants to wear regular basketball shoes on the court. Unfortunately, some players have been injured because they wore non-regulation footwear, such as running shoes. Olson said players are susceptible to rolling their ankles if they play basketball while wearing running shoes.

Another contributing factor to injuries involves insufficient conditioning prior to playing a game.

"As people age, the injury rates increase. It's even more important to stretch before and after an exercise. If you do not warm up before stretching, such as walking around, you increase the injury rate," Olson said. She also said that sports-related injuries are among the top ten diagnoses made during hospital or clinic visits.

The fitness center staff plan to increase monitoring pick-up games.

"We will do our part by ensuring that the game (basketball) is played the way it should be played. We should (all) work toward minimizing injuries by being less aggressive, wearing the proper shoes and 'calming down' so people will be able to play another day."

Person added, "We are not wanting to curtail any games. We want to encourage civility on the court and reduce sports mishaps."

Rudolph.Purificato@brooks.af.mil

## Lady golfer paces Brooks to best AFMC tourney showing

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Brooks varsity golf team 'rookie' Linda Jeffery paced her squad to a third place finish in September at the Air Force Materiel Command tournament in which she captured individual honors as the women's division champion.

Brooks finished third behind Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M., the defending 2001 AFMC champ, and tourney host Robins Air Force Base, Ga., which won the title on the strength of all five of its team members placing in the top five of their individual divisions. The third place finish equaled Brooks' previous best command tourney performance in 1999.

As predicted by her teammates, Jeffery demonstrated exceptional talent and skill by winning all three rounds and her division by 13 strokes. She dominated the par 72 course with scores of 75, 77 and 74. Only in the final round was she seriously challenged when second place finisher Amy Rongey of Robins AFB fired a 76.

"I was very impressed with her (Jeffery). It was fun to watch her play," said teammate James Barfield, whose own performance was nothing short of a miracle. Barfield nearly died earlier this year after surgery to remove a cancerous lung. Despite his physical limitations, Barfield turned in a respectable performance in the senior division, finishing 14th with a combined three-round total 274.

More important to Barfield was how his team-

mates came together to meet tournament challenges as an underdog squad. "This year we finished stronger as a team. The five of us, including two rookies, developed a team chemistry. We felt like teammates. For me, that was a factor in our success," said Barfield, a veteran of four consecutive AFMC tournaments.

While Jeffery's play was phenomenal, Barfield's performance was inspirational. "I'm not disappointed by my scores. I am very fortunate and blessed to have been able to compete," he said of the first tournament he has played in since his operation in January. He used the event to test his rehabilitation progress. "I don't have the strength, flexibility and endurance that I use to have. After the 13th and 14th hole, I felt tired. Before the surgery, I used to play two rounds a day," said the 41-year-old who grew up in Georgia.

While Barfield had played the Robins course years ago, he knew he would have to test his reduced stamina to prevail. Fortunately, he was able to complete every round. "I wanted to test my capabilities. It (tournament) gave me a chance to gauge myself physically, emotionally and spiritually." As a prelude to testing his tourney endurance, Barfield opted to drive to the event instead of flying there.

The tournament also tested the resolve of other Brooks team members. Chris McLaren and Jeffery Mylar finished 11th and 13th, respectively, in the men's open division. McLaren's best score came in round two with an eight over par 80. He finished with a combined 255 score. Mylar's first round 85 was his tournament best. He finished with a three-round total 262. Barfield's senior division teammate, Curt Nagle, finished 16th with a combined 284 score.



Photo by Rudy Purificato  
**A kiss for luck may have helped Chris McLaren's "top ten" performance within his division at the AFMC golf championship. McLaren, assigned to the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis, helped the Brooks' varsity team finish third.**

### Team Standings

Base	1st	2nd	3rd	Total
Robins	389	398	395	1182
Kirtland	409	407	438	1254
Brooks	439	420	442	1301
Tinker	442	429	443	1314
Wright-Pat	439	441	453	1333
Hill	538	505	502	1545



# HAWC-Fitness Center plan historic event

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

For years, they have worked together on behalf of good health. Now, two Brooks organizations are formalizing their relationship with an integration ceremony and 5K fun run at the fitness center Oct. 16.

Health and Wellness Center and Fitness Center leaders will use the event as a backdrop for signing a Memorandum of Agreement, which will lead to more effective and efficient integration of their resources.

"We're trying to improve the service we provide our base population. We've been working with the HAWC for several years. This agreement now brings us even closer together. We agree to do what we can to help others maintain a healthy lifestyle," said Roy Conatzer, fitness center director.

The MOA commits both organizations to jointly promoting each other's events. In the past, the fitness center has supported such HAWC activities as the "Great American Smokeout" and fun runs including the "Turkey Trot" and "Healthy Heart."

Conatzer said the MOA does not merge the two organizations. "The chain of command remains the same," Conatzer said,

noting that the fitness center will continue to be part of Services while HAWC remains under the base clinic's jurisdiction.

"What the agreement allows us to do is advertise each other's programs," said Conatzer, explaining that the fitness center will promote HAWC activities such as the annual health fair. The HAWC, in turn, will promote fitness center sports programs.

According to Conatzer, the bond between the two organizations first started forming about six years ago. The HAWC nurtured the relationship by recommending to its customers specific exercise programs that were subsequently supported by the fitness center. "We have the equipment, expertise and willingness to help them," said Conatzer about referred HAWC customers.

The MOA is the first step in a series of planned actions. The Fitness Center Master Plan for 2004 includes the re-location of the HAWC to the fitness center site. Conatzer said the HAWC move is dependent upon the availability of funds.

According to Maj. Deborah Olson, the HAWC's health promotion manager, the first 100 people who sign up for the Integration Ceremony Fun Run receive commemorative T-shirts. The run starts at 8 a.m.

## HAWC notes

**536-4292**

### October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer in women. Skin cancer ranks number one. If you are a woman, your chances of developing breast cancer increases with age. You may be at higher risk if you:

- \* have a mother, grandmother, sister, or aunt with breast cancer
- \* began your menstrual periods before age 12
- \* go through menopause after age 55
- \* have never given birth, or gave birth after age 35
- \* eat a high fat diet
- \* use tobacco

Prevention or early detection is the best defense against breast cancer.

Here's a few tips on what you can do to reduce your risk:

- \* Perform a monthly breast exam
- \* Have a mammogram every 2 years, beginning at age 40 and annually after age 50
- \* For high risk women, have a mammogram yearly, starting at age 35
- \* Eat a low fat diet
- \* If you smoke, quit.

**Following these tips could save your life.**